



A Coast Guard 25-foot Transportable Port Security Boat pulls up next to the coastal buoy tender CGC William Tate (WLM 560). The Boston Whaler types 22, 25 and 27, designed raider boats have twin outboard engines, do 40 knots and are highly maneuverable. Each has two .50-caliber Machine Gun (MG) forward/2 M60 7.62 mm MGs aft.

Search and Rescue

Render aid to people in distress and property in the marine environment. Serves as maritime Search and Rescue (SAR) coordinator within the National SAR Plan. Maintains SAR facilities along U.S. coasts including Alaska, Hawaii, the Great Lakes, Guam and Puerto Rico. Operates the Automated Mutual-Assistance Vessel Rescue System (AMVER), and helped design the Search and Rescue Satellite Aided Tracking System which picks up emergency locating transmitters or emergency position-indicating radio beacons from aircraft or vessels.

Waterways Management

Involves the interrelationship between three entities—ships, waterways and facilities including docks, bridges, and piers. These relationships are governed by rules and regulations covering navigation, tankers, bridges, radiotelephones and vessel traffic services. Overlaps several Coast Guard programs, as well as waterways programs of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Interagency Task Force on United States Coast Guard Roles and Missions

In 1999, a presidential task force studied and validated the appropriate roles and missions for the Coast Guard through the year 2020. Special attention was to be given to those missions that occur beyond 50 nautical miles from U.S. shores commonly referred to as deepwater missions. The 16 task force members represented a broad cross-section of the federal agency executives who rely upon the Coast Guard to carry out their mandates and deliver important services to the nation.

After a year of intensive research, the task force concluded that the Coast Guard provides the nation with a broad spectrum of vital services that will be increasingly important in the decades ahead. The task force further concluded that the Coast Guard is the right agency to perform these missions and that demand for our service will only increase in the coming decades.

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